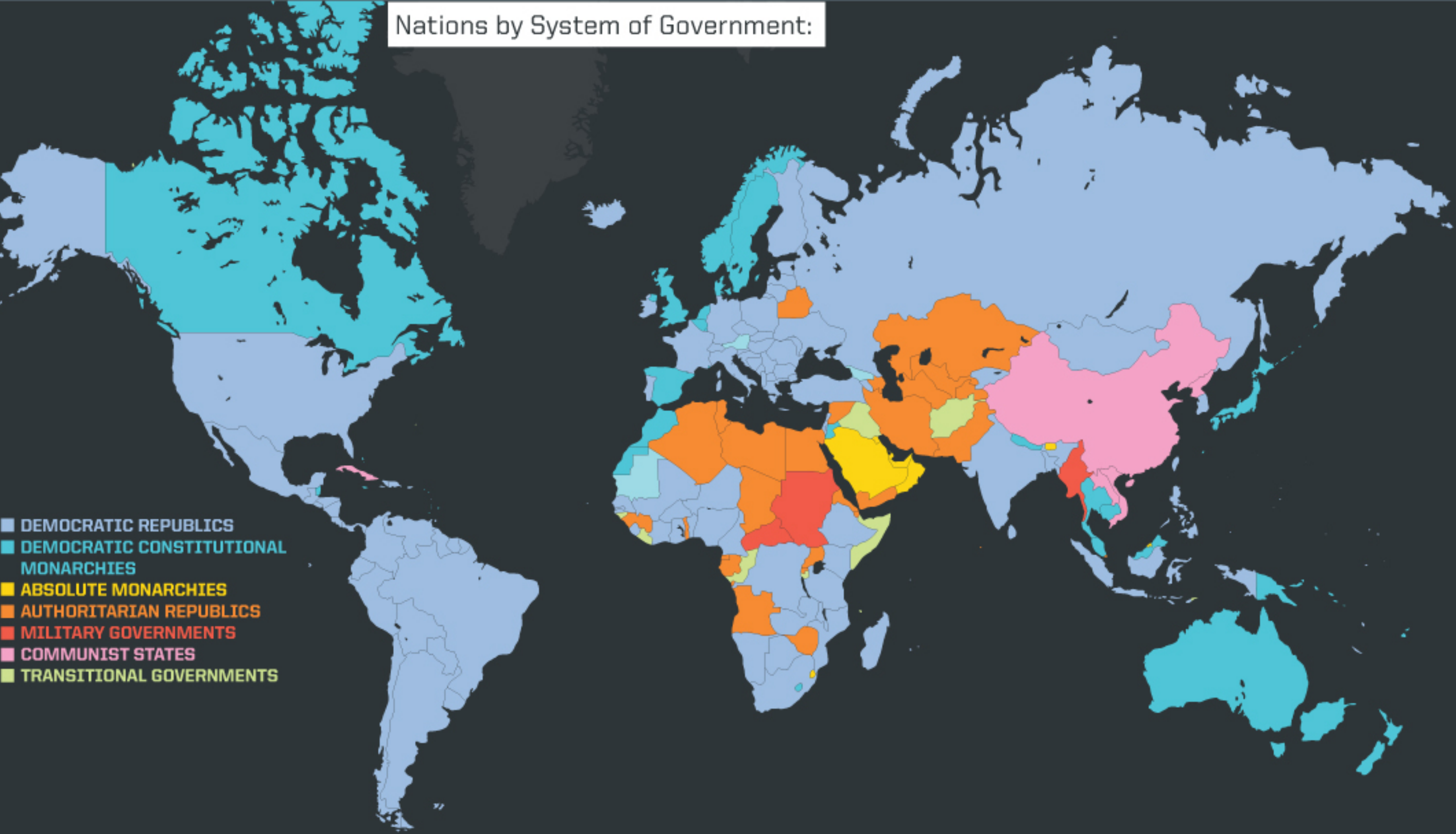


# How Do Other Countries Pick Their Leaders?



Around the world, there are a number of different types of governments, and many different ways in which countries pick (or do not pick) their leaders. This graphic helps to explain the various systems of government, and sheds light on some of the world's most notorious, and/or longest-ruling national leaders.

## Nations by System of Government:



### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICS

Country is governed by an elected head of state and legislature

Albania // Argentina // Armenia // Bangladesh // Benin // Bolivia // Bosnia and Herzegovina // Botswana // Brazil // Bulgaria // Burkina Faso // Cameroon // Cape Verde // Chile // Republic of China (Taiwan) // Colombia // Republic of the Congo // Costa Rica // Côte d'Ivoire // Croatia // Cyprus // Czech Republic // Dominica // Dominican Republic // Ecuador // El Salvador // Estonia // Ethiopia // Fiji // Finland // France // The Gambia // Germany // Ghana // Greece // Guatemala // Guyana // Haiti // Honduras // Hungary // Iceland // India // Indonesia // Republic of Ireland // Israel // Italy // Kenya // Kiribati // Republic of Korea // Kyrgyzstan // Latvia // Lebanon // Lithuania // Republic of Macedonia // Madagascar // Malawi // Mali // Malta // Marshall Islands // Mauritius // Mexico // Federated States of Micronesia // Moldova // Mongolia // Mozambique // Namibia // Nauru // Nicaragua // Niger // Nigeria // Palau // Panama // Paraguay // Peru // Philippines // Poland // Portugal // Romania // Russia // San Marino // São Tomé and Príncipe // Senegal // Serbia and Montenegro // Seychelles // Sierra Leone // Slovakia // Slovenia // South Africa // Sri Lanka // Suriname // Switzerland // Tanzania // Trinidad and Tobago // Turkey // Ukraine // United States // Uruguay // Vanuatu // Venezuela // Zambia

### DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHIES

Country is governed by an elected legislature and prime minister, with a monarch as a symbolic head of state

Andorra // Antigua and Barbuda // Australia // The Bahamas // Barbados // Belgium // Belize // Cambodia // Canada // Denmark // Grenada // Jamaica // Japan // Jordan // Lesotho // Liechtenstein // Luxembourg // Malaysia // Morocco // Nepal // Netherlands // New Zealand // Norway // Papua New Guinea // Saint Kitts and Nevis // Saint Lucia // Saint Vincent and the Grenadines // Samoa // Solomon Islands // Spain // Sweden // Thailand // Tuvalu // United Kingdom

### ABSOLUTE MONARCHIES

Country is governed solely by an absolute monarch along with other members of his family

Bahrain // Bhutan // Brunei Darussalam // Kuwait // Oman // Qatar // Saudi Arabia // Swaziland // Tonga // United Arab Emirates

### AUTHORITARIAN REPUBLICS

Country is governed by a dictatorial leader or single-party hierarchy that does not allow for effective popular opposition

Algeria // Angola // Azerbaijan // Belarus // Chad // Djibouti // Egypt // Equatorial Guinea // Eritrea // Gabon // Guinea // Iran // Kazakhstan // Libya // Maldives // Mauritania // Pakistan // Rwanda // Singapore // Syria // Tajikistan // Togo // Tunisia // Turkmenistan // Uganda // Uzbekistan // Yemen // Zimbabwe

### MILITARY GOVERNMENTS

Country is governed by the military which has seized control of the nation's political institutions

Central African Republic // Myanmar (Burma) // Sudan

### COMMUNIST STATES

Country is governed by a communist party hierarchy that has banned all opposition. These governments also fit under the category of "authoritarian republics"

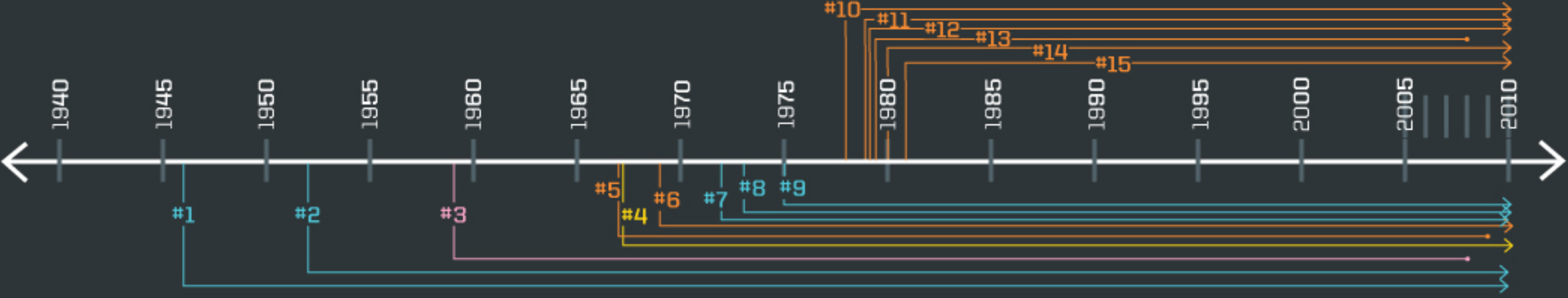
People's Republic of China // Cuba // Democratic People's Republic of Korea // Laos // Vietnam







### TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENTS

Country is governed by a recently-established caretaker administration, and thus cannot be accurately identified as a specific system of government

Afghanistan (since the US invasion and fall of the Taliban) // Burundi (since the peace agreement to end civil war) // Comoros (since a secessionist crisis) // Democratic Republic of the Congo (since the assassination of Laurent-Désiré Kabila) // East Timor (since the end of Indonesian occupation) // Guinea-Bissau (since the coup deposing President Kumba Ialá) // Iraq (since the US invasion and fall of Saddam Hussein) // Liberia (since dictator Charles Taylor fled to Nigeria) // Somalia (since the fall of Siad Barre in 1991)

## Longest serving leaders since the turn of the 20th century



LEADER	REIGN	COUNTRY	POPULATION (RESPONSIBILITY)	BORN	DIED
 King Bhumibol Adulyadej	#1 6/9/1946 - present 64 years	 THAILAND	63,525,000	12/5/1927	
 Queen Elizabeth II	#2 2/6/1952 - present 58 years	 UNITED KINGDOM	62,008,000	4/21/1926	
 President Fidel Castro	#3 2/16/1959 - 2/24/2008 51 years	 CUBA	11,204,000	8/13/1926	
 Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah	#4 10/5/1967 - present 43 years	 BRUNEI	407,000	7/15/1946	
 President Omar Albert-Bernard Bongo	#5 3/19/1967 - 6/8/2009 42 years	 GABON	1,501,000	12/30/1935	6/8/2009
 Colonel Muammar Gaddafi	#6 9/1/1969 - present 41 years	 LIBYA	6,546,000	6/7/1942	
 Queen Margrethe II	#7 1/14/1972 - present 38 years	 DENMARK	5,540,000	4/16/1940	
 King Carl XVI Gustaf	#8 9/15/1973 - present 36 years	 SWEDEN	9,373,000	4/30/1946	
 King Juan Carlos	#9 11/22/1975 - present 34 years	 SPAIN	46,073,000	1/5/1938	
 President Ali Abdullah Saleh	#10 7/18/1978 - present 32 years	 YEMEN	24,256,000	3/21/1942	
 Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo	#11 8/3/1979 - present 31 years	 EQUATORIAL GUINEA	693,000	6/5/1942	
 President Jose Eduardo dos Santos	#12 9/10/1979 - present 31 years	 ANGOLA	18,993,000	8/28/1942	
 President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom	#13 11/11/1978 - 11/11/2008 30 years	 MALDIVE	314,000	12/29/1937	
 Robert Mugabe	#14 4/18/1980 - present 30 years	 ZIMBABWE	12,644,000	2/21/1924	
 President Muhammad Hosni Mubarak	#15 10/14/1981 - present 29 years	 EGYPT	78,892,000	5/4/1928	